City of Taunton Office of the Mayor



For Immediate Press Release: 02/14/2022 Contact Person: Ligia Madeira

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MAYOR O'CONNELL ANNOUNCES BANNER DISPLAYS TO HONOR OUR MILITARY

Taunton, MA......Today Mayor Shaunna O'Connell announced plans for the 2nd Annual Honor Our Military Banners to be displayed in Downtown Taunton.

"We are so pleased to be able to continue this new and much-loved tradition of honoring our military by displaying banners throughout our Downtown area with military members' pictures and service information. Last year, our community responded with enormous gratitude for our efforts to honor our military. We plan to show support and appreciation for our military by displaying these banners every year. It is important for us to acknowledge their bravery and sacrifice," said O'Connell.

An Honor Our Military Committee comprised of members from the community, the Mayor's Office and local Veterans' organizations has been working together to establish this tradition as an annual display. Taunton is proud to be home to many military families and wartime Veterans and the military banner display is a highly visible way for the entire community to recognize these heroes.

Families may purchase a banner for \$80 with their military member's photo which will be displayed for several months on light posts throughout the Downtown area. Additional opportunities are being explored with TMLP to display banners beyond the Downtown area.

Local businessman Bruce Thomas and his wife Sandy have once again offered a generous donation to subsidize banners for families who need financial assistance to purchase a banner. The Thomas family issued the following statement: "By continuing to honor our Military through this very important citywide event, Mayor O'Connell has ensured that our heroes are recognized for their service and our community can come together to show our gratitude for the sacrifices made so willingly and without hesitation by these courageous men and women. When the Mayor asked us to be a part of this very important event, we did not hesitate. Mayor O'Connell has been a long-time supporter of Veterans and our Military and we are incredibly grateful that she is continuing this tradition to shine a spotlight on our hometown heroes."

Applications to purchase a banner are available on the City of Taunton website (taunton-ma.gov) and Facebook page. Residents may also pick up a copy of the application at the Mayor's Office at City Hall. Banner space is limited, so applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis as space allows. All applications must be received no later than April 7, 2022.

Questions may be directed to the Mayor's Office at 508-821-1000.###